

Logos Educator's Network Video #8 - What is the northern nation's name and how many tribes constitute this nation?

What was the name of the southern nation and how many tribes constitute this nation?

Judah and 2 tribes

What nation takes the northern nation into captivity? Assyria

What nation takes the southern nation into captivity? Babylon

What do the exilic books emphasize? -They emphasize on trusting in God

What is the focus of Ezra? - Return and rebuild the temple and the worship system. It was to turn people back to God

What was the "remnant"? - A segment of people God will preserve

Why does God preserve a remnant? It is in the plan of redemption

Who was the leader of the first return of the nation from captivity? - Ezra and Zerubbabel

What was the focus of the people at this time? - The focus was on the rebuilding of Jerusalem

What do we find in common among these books? - The return of the nation of Israel

When did Darius allow the people of Judah to return to the Promised Land? - 605 bc

What is the theme of Esther? God's sovereign hand is upon the nation of Israel

What verse sums up this theme? Esther 4:14

"¹⁴For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

What person can you trace Haman's ancestry to? Esau

How was God's sovereignty displayed in the book? When Esther entered the King's palace without being called

What happens to the gallows that Haman made? He was hung on them

Who gives authority? Its God who gives authority

What do these stories show us? They show us that God is sovereign

What was the problem that Nehemiah faced?

1. The city was in ruins
2. All the walls were destroyed
3. People lived in poverty

What dream does King Nebuchadnezzar have and what is its interpretation? Nebuchadnezzar dreamt of a great and dazzling statue. The head of the statue was pure gold, its chest and arms were silver, belly and thighs bronze, its legs were iron, and its feet were part iron, part clay. As he watched a stone was cut (not by human hands) and it struck the statue but the stone that had struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth

The head of gold is King Nebuchadnezzar, he was given power and authority

The chest - is another kingdom which will arise (Persia)

The bronze are the Greeks

The Romans will take over the kingdom and crush all things

Partly earth and iron is a divided kingdom (Kingdom of Israel North, Judah South)

What is Nehemiah's responsible? To build the wall

Who opposed him? Sanballat and Tobiah

How does Nehemiah overcome adversity? That's Nehemiah chapter one by prayer

In what revelation can we find courage to overcome? God is real and we can trust and begin to worship him

How long did it take to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem? 52 Days

How did Nehemiah divide the task to rebuild the walls? Each family to build next to their house

Ezra and Nehemiah -

What empire overthrew the Babylonians? - Persian empire

Why did the Persians permit people to return to their lands? To maintain good relationships with the people and to rebuild Jerusalem

In what way did the Israelites return to Jerusalem? They returned voluntarily and some decided to stay

What similarities are there between the books of Ezra and Nehemiah? They encourage people to return to God and to rebuild Jerusalem and rebuild worship

Why was the temple important and why did opponents of the Israelites oppose its construction? It was a place of worship

What was a cupbearer? someone who gives wine to the King

What did Nehemiah oversee? the construction of the walls of Jerusalem and worship

What opposition did the Israelites face? Opposition from the surrounding nations

What did having walls mean? It means having protection and security

Ezra and Nehemiah (David Shepherd)-

What are these books about—the “what” and the “who”?

What: What happened

Who: Who is Ezra and who is Nehemiah

What is the “when” and “where” of the restoration?

When: 7th year of King Artaxerxes, one of the returning remnants to place in the 7th year of this king

Where: Where is Jerusalem, Susa in Babylon and where is the promise of Yahweh

How is God active in the restoration? He raises a Remnant

What is the background on the book? The return of exiles and restoration after exile

What does the book of Lamentations tell us about these times? Destruction of Jerusalem

What is the Cyrus cylinder and what did it say? Cyrus encouraged the return to the Homeland. He brought about the return policy

1. Under Shezpaiah and Zerubabel

2. Under Ezra and Nehemiah
3. Under King Artaxerxes

Who opposed the reconstruction of the temple and the walls?

Sanballat and Tobiah

Where else do we hear about Sanballat? In the ancient Egyptian records

What autobiographical material do we find in the book? The destruction of Jerusalem, people taken into Babylon

What other kinds of material do we find in the books? Chapter Eight and nine of Ezra, Nehemiah: 1,2,4,5,12 and 13. These chapters go back to their memoirs giving us a perspective of what took place.

What language do we find in the book that is from the Persian Empire? Aramaic, this gives authenticity

What kinds of lists do we find? List of people who have returned to the land, controversies over divorce, sign to the covenant and shows continuity with their forefathers

Who was the Chronicler? This brings first and second chronicles

What similarities and differences do we see between these books and the books of Chronicles? Interest in lists in the identity of the people

What was the author interested in? The author was interested in the dangers, temptations, intermarriage, not on radar of the chronicler

Seven Building Blocks for Leaders -

What seven leadership skills did Charles Swindoll describe from the book of Nehemiah?

1. Resilience and patience through opposition
2. Passion for the project
3. that is unswerving confidence in God
4. a willingness to work hard and remain unselfish
5. discipline to finish the job
6. ability to motivate others
7. Trust in God

What is Nehemiah's journal filled with? Ability to motivate others

What opposition did Nehemiah face? Face sarcasm, suspicion, gossip, mockery, threats, open letters and false accusations

What balance did Nehemiah maintain? Resilience and patience

What is servant leadership? servant leadership is getting along with others and be part of the team

How did the people celebrate when the walls were built? They were walking on the wall, dancing, marching, shouting, singing songs of praise and hymns

Ezra Overview Chart - According to the chart, what were the two major activities recorded in the book of Ezra? Construction of the temple and reformation of the people

What were the associated emphases? Community participation in the rebuilding and worship

According to Charles Swindoll, what is the major theme of the book? Revival and reformation

And in what way do we find Christ in the book of Esther? Pictured in Esther who was an advocate for her people even willing to die for them

Nehemiah Overview Chart - What activity do we find at the beginning and at the end of the book of Nehemiah? Beginning - cupbearer of the king, End - Governor of the people

What were the three occupations of Nehemiah?

Cupbearer of the king
Builder of the wall
Governor of the people

According to Charles Swindoll, what is the focus of the book?
Leadership of men and revival of nations

What difficulties did Nehemiah face and what were the associated victories?

Facing enemies, the size of the project and the burden on himself

Victories: release from bondage, accomplishment of the wall, obedience, changes to the nation - they were now worshippers and returned to God

According to Charles Swindoll, what is the theme of the book?
Nehemiah's trust in the covenant keeping God

In what way do we find Christ in the book of Nehemiah? He has an exalted position to identify with the plight of his people and lead them into restoration. Nehemiah's prayerful life and dependence on God

Esther - What book is contemporary with the book of Daniel?

Esther - there was high position in Pagan society but useful in the kingdom of God.

What two books in the Bible are written principally about women?

Esther and Ruth

What two books of the Bible never mentioned God? Songs of

Solomon and Esther

Who conquered the Babylonians? The Persians

What is the Hebrew name for Esther? Hardsi

In what way is the book of Esther attested to? Help God's people

What was the extent of King Xerxes' kingdom? From India to Egypt

Give a brief outline of the story of Esther.

She was young and beautiful, only one man knew her secret that she was a Jew - Modechai. She was an orphan adopted by her Uncle (Modechai). By the grace of God, she was married to the King. Haman plotted to wipe out the Jews on the face of the earth. Esther went to the King without being called, found favour with the King, interceded for the people of Israel. Genocide was saved. As a result, Esther saved the Jewish nation otherwise Jesus Christ would not have come. If Haman, has succeeded there would be no lineage for Jesus Christ to come through.

Explain the hatred of the Agagites and the nation of Israel.

Samuel told Saul to kill Agag - a wicked King but Saul saved him. Samuel later killed him, that's where the hatred began.

What is the Hebrew word for "lot"? - pirn

What is the plural form? - Purim which is a celebration of rescue of the Jews from genocide

Why is the thirteenth day of the month held with such superstition? It was supposed to be the Holocaust day

What coincidences took place? Modechai sent message to Esther

What would have happened if all the Jews had been killed? Jewish Christ would not have been born because he came from the Jews

What did David Pawson reveal about the structure of the book?

The story is superbly told

What does the story end upon? Haman hanged on his gallows and the Jews saved.

What other theme does he reveal? Deliverance is certain

Who is behind abortion? The devil wants to destroy future Christian leaders

Who tried to bring genocide to the nation of Israel? Haman

Who is the unseen actor in this drama? The Holy Spirit

What shows the providence of God behind the book? King realised saved his life and nothing was done for him

What did David Pawson say about the finger of God? Salvation is for the Jews

Where does God appear in the book of Esther? When Mordechai was honoured and Haman hanged

What are acrostics? Esther 1:20, 5:4. God is mentioned in the Hebrew language.

What letters are used and what do they mean? HVHJ - Backwards this is Jewish
JHVH - Forwards - Lord in the English language, EAHV - I am

When were the letters spelled backwards? Jewish speaking

When were they spelled forwards? Gentile speaking

Why did the author probably write the name of God in acrostics?
This was not to be caught, so that they would be labelled as Anti-Semitism

What does this say about God in this book? God is mentioned in the book of Esther

What lessons can we learn from this book? God was behind the plan to save his people

Esther Overview Chart - According to Charles Swindoll what is illustrated in the book of Esther about God? God can use anyone in his Kingdom

What are the circumstances and major theme of the book?

This sovereign accomplishment of God's purposes through ordinary people and apparent coincidences

What do we see about esters character in this book?

Total dependence on God and courage - if I die, I die, if I live, I live when approaching the King

How does Esther points us to Jesus Christ?

Jesus is our advocate who was willing to die for us and surely he died for us.